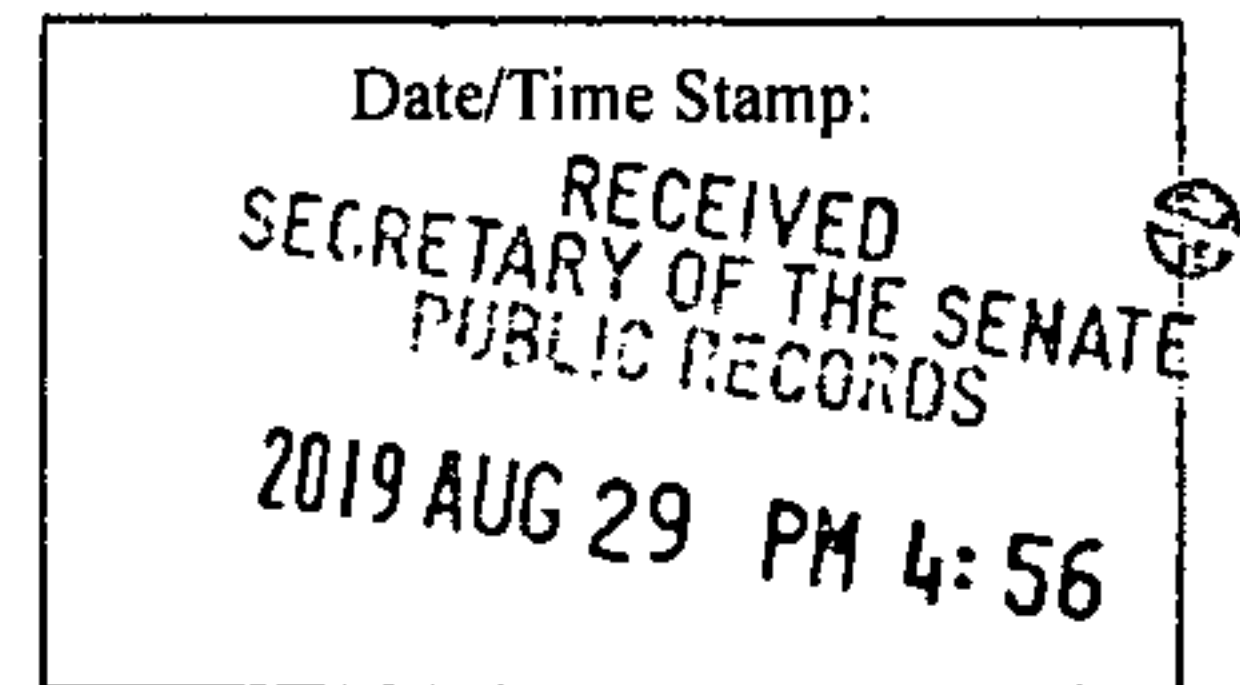


Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the **Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.**



In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☐ The original *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), AND
☐ A copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): _____

Travel date(s): August 7th

N/A

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING DID NOT INCREASE DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount			\$30.00 (breakfast and lunch only)	

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): I attended sessions on school improvement, learning about the working being done as the Every Student Succeeds Act is implemented and an additional session on the innovative work being done by states and districts.

8/29/19
(Date)

Kara Marchione
(Printed name of traveler)

Kara Marchione
(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

8/29/19
(Date)

Patty Murray
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)



**Program on Education
and Society**

Ross E. Wiener
Vice President &
Program Executive Director
Aspen Institute Headquarters
PH: 202-736-5817
Ross.Wiener@aspennst.org

Danielle Gonzales
Managing Director
Aspen Institute Headquarters
P: 202-736-3543
Danielle.Gonzales@aspennst.org

August 29, 2019

Kara Marchione
Director of Education Policy
U. S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
428 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Kara,

In order to assist you in fulfilling your reporting requirement, I am pleased to provide the following information:

Sponsor:	The Aspen Institute Education and Society Program
Purpose:	To participate in a conference on <i>Implementing ESSA: School Improvement and Innovation</i>
Conference Dates:	August 6-8, 2019
Destination:	Airlie, 6809 Airlie Road, Warrenton, VA 20187
Conference Meal Cost for 8/7/19 only:	\$ 30.00 (breakfast and lunch only)



If you need additional information, please contact Antoinette Miller at 202-736-3538.

Sincerely,

Souk Greiner

Aspen Institute Headquarters

2300 N Street NW

Suite 700

Washington, DC 20037

PH 202-736-5800

www.aspeninstitute.org

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved. This form **must** be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Kara Marchione

 Senate HELP Committee
 Employing Office/Committee: _____
 Private Sponsor(s) (list all): The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Education and Society Program)

 Travel date(s): August 6-8, 2019

*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.*
 Destination(s): Warrenton, VA

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

As the HELP Committee's education policy director, this retreat will help me better understand State and federal implementation of the 2015 reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The retreat has a number of panels and discussion sessions with researchers and practitioners to discuss State and local implementation of the school accountability and school improvement provisions in the reauthorization. Attending this retreat will inform the HELP Committee's continued oversight and future reauthorizations.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____
 Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

7/8/19 Kara Marchione
 (Date) (Signature of Employee)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator Patty Murray hereby authorize Kara Marchione
 (Print Senator's/Officer's Name) (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (signify "yes" by checking box) ☐

7/8/19 Patty Murray
 (Date) (Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should NOT submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors):
The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Education and Society Program)
2. Description of the trip: Aspen Institute Education and Society program sponsored convening for senior education staffers on the Implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and next steps.
3. Dates of travel: August 6-8, 2019
4. Place of travel: Warrenton, VA
5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Please see attached roster
6. I certify that the trip fits one of the following categories:
☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.
—OR—
☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) (*see question 9*).
7. ☒ I certify that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
—AND—
☒ I certify that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.
8. I certify that:
☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.
—AND—
☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**

I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

~~OR~~

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (see questions 6 and 10).

~~OR~~

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

The Aspen Institute is the sole sponsor of this retreat and is solely responsible for the development and execution of the convening. (see continued response)

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies non-profit organization whose mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and provide a non-partisan forum for the exchange of ideas.

(see continued response)

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

The Aspen Institute has a nearly forty year history of conducting non-partisan educational forums, which often include Members of Congress and staff. The Aspen Institute Education and Society program has been conducting convenings for Congressional education staff for over twelve years.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

The Aspen Institute holds numerous educational activities, including educational briefings, roundtables, forums, and conferences for a diverse range of attendees including federal and state policymakers, business and organizational leaders, members of the press and the general (see continued response)

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	\$58.00 (round trip mileage and tolls)	\$188.00 for two nights total	\$110.50	\$402.50 meeting room fees (includes meeting facilities, set up/take down, cleaning, meeting materials)

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

b) The trip is organized specifically with regard to Congressional staff participation in order to support their learning on implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The location is close to Washington, DC for easy staffer travel and allows faculty members (external experts brought in to support the retreat) to fly into DCA, Dulles or BWI and travel easily to the facility.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Airle House, 6809 Airle Road, Warrenton, VA 20187

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

The meeting location has sufficient meeting space and lodging to support off-the-record, non-partisan exchanges of ideas and professional learning.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Rooms are \$94.00 per day, which reflects the per diem limit

Meals are 8/6/19 \$14.25 per day, 8/7/19 \$55.00 per day, 8/8/19 \$41.25 per day, which reflects the per diem limit

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Transportation is not provided; mileage will be reimbursed for participants' travel by personal car

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None

25. I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you must include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor:



Name and Title: Elliot Gerson, Executive Vice President, Policy & Public Programs

Name of Organization: The Aspen Institute

Address: 2300 N Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20037

Telephone Number: 202-736-5859 (Lisa Jones, Deputy General Counsel)

Fax Number: 202-467-0790

E-mail Address: lisa.jones@aspennist.org

Aspen Institute Senior Congressional Education Staff Network Retreat, August 6-8, 2019.

Questions 13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to the mission (response continued) – The Aspen Institute Education and Society Program seeks to provide a neutral forum to aid education policymakers in their efforts to improve K-12 public education. The purpose of the trip is to conduct a non-partisan educational retreat that encourages off-the-record, candid exchanges of ideas to support staffers' learning.

Question 15: Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips) (response continued) – The Aspen Institute organizes numerous educational activities, including educational briefings, roundtables, forums and conferences for a diverse range of attendees including federal and state policymakers, business and organizational leaders, members of the press and the general public. The Aspen Institute Education and Society Program works with federal, state and local education leaders to improve K-12 student achievement, particularly for underserved students.

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Aspen Senior Congressional Education Staff Network Retreat

Implementing ESSA: School Improvement and Innovation

Airlie House
6809 Airlie Drive
Warrenton, VA 20187

August 6-8, 2019

#5. Please provide names and titles of ALL Senate Members and employees you are inviting.

The Senate employees invited (listed below) are senior education staff responsible for education issues; they are invited specifically because of their education portfolio to meet with leaders and educational experts from states, districts, research, and support organizations to engage in non-partisan dialogue on the impact of federal policy on different levels of the education system.

SENATE CONGRESSIONAL STAFF

Amanda Beaumont
Minority Deputy Education Policy Director
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Mark Laisch
Minority Professional Staff Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education

Manuel Contreras
Minority Education Policy Advisor
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Kara Marchione
Minority Education Policy Director
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Laura Friedel
Majority Clerk
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education

Bob Moran
Majority Deputy Education Policy Director
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Mike Gentile
Majority Professional Staff Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education

Matt Stern
Majority Professional Staff
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Jordan Hynes
Majority Professional Staff Member
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions

Alex Keenan
Minority Clerk
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and Education

Kim Knackstedt
Minority Senior Disability Policy Advisor
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
and Pensions, Ranking Member

Aspen Senior Congressional Education Staff Network Retreat

Implementing ESSA: School Improvement and Innovation

Airlie House
6809 Airlie Rd.
Warrenton, VA 20187
P: (540) 347-1300

August 6-8, 2019

AGENDA

Retreat Goals:

Understand how states and districts are implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), including school improvement strategies after the first year of school identifications;
Understand how states and districts are using innovation, especially around teaching and learning, accountability, and assessment, to address equity and support school improvement;
Engage in active learning and build working relationships with education leaders from the field, as well as with colleagues from different parties and chambers.

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

12:00 PM **Arrival and Check-In** (*participants to arrive by personal transportation*)

12:30 – 1:00 PM **Lunch**

1:15 – 1:45 PM **Welcome, Overview, and Retreat Objectives**

To guide the retreat's discussion, Congressional staffers and faculty members will begin by sharing their top learning objectives for the convening.

1:45 – 3:00 PM **Session I: Lessons from ESSA Accountability Year 1 Implementation**
Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner, Rhode Island Department of Education
(invited)

LaTanya McDade, Chief Education Officer, Chicago Public Schools (invited)

Guiding Questions:

- *How did the identification of schools for CSI, ATSI, or TSI compare to expectations and/or state plan projections? What are implications? Are there any false negatives/positives?*
How are SEAs and LEAs preparing for year 2 of ESSA accountability implementation? What lessons have been learned, what adjustments are being made?
To what extent are SEAs amending their approved ESSA plans and/or seeking waivers? How are SEAs and LEAs engaging stakeholder groups in drafting amendments or seeking waivers?

- *What role are support organizations playing in supporting implementation and building capacity in SEAs and LEAs?*
- *What role has the U.S. Department of Education (ED) played during the first year of implementation and what are state and districts expectations for what they should be doing in year 2 and beyond?*

3:00 – 3:15 PM

Break

3:15 – 5:00 PM

Session II: Innovation Focus on Personalized Learning

Participants will learn about innovative approaches to teaching and learning, such as personalized learning and competency-based education, how these approaches can help to increase equity and outcomes for all students, and their intersection with ESSA, and other state laws and policies.

Guiding Questions:

- *How does ESSA encourage innovation like personalized learning? What state and district capacity is needed to effectively implement practices like personalized learning and competency-based education?*
- *Could ESSA and/or other current/future federal policy or funding encourage more innovation or help to scale best practices? How are these models being evaluated for impact? Or being used to support and complement school improvement initiatives?*

5:00 – 5:15 PM

Taking stock: Staff reflections and feedback to guide remaining discussions

6:30 PM

Networking Reception with Expert Faculty

Staffers will have the opportunity to network with faculty during the reception.

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Dinner with Discussion of Earlier Sessions

Wednesday, August 7, 2019

7:30 – 8:30 AM

Breakfast

8:30 – 8:35 PM

Group reflection on Day 1: What thoughts and questions were raised for further discussion?

8:35 – 11:00 AM

Session III: Deep Dive on School Improvement

Leighann Lentl, Chief of Partnership, University of Virginia Partnership for Leaders in Education (invited)

Staff will be led through a detailed presentation on district turnaround efforts being supported by the University of Virginia's work nationally, with a close examination of the work in a partner district. Staff and faculty will consider implementation implications, including what it means for SEA and LEA capacity, human capital decisions, budgeting, and overall strategy.

11:00 – 11:15 AM **Break and individual reflection**

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM **Session IV: School Improvement Reflection: Context and Implications**

Faculty will respond to issues raised in earlier sessions and respond to the questions staffers are most interested in learning more about.

Guiding Questions:

Is ESSA's theory of action around school improvement playing out as envisioned? Why or why not?

- *How are ATSI and TSI identified schools sufficiently differentiated?*
- *How are SEAs leveraging ESSA's evidence requirements for interventions? What interventions are they using?*
- *For CSI schools, are improvement plans (including resource allocation reviews) proving useful (or different from prior practice)? Are SEAs engaging with CSI plans in a timely and useful way? What supports do LEAs need to effectively support CSI schools?*
- *What role can/should ED play in promoting effective practices and evidence-based improvement strategies?*

12:15 – 1:30 PM **Lunch**

1:30 – 3:00 PM **Session V: Innovation Focus on Accountability and Assessment**

Staff will go on a partner walk to answer two questions:

1. What innovation(s) did you expect to see following ESSA's passage?
2. How can can/should federal policy encourage/allow/support innovation?

All staff and faculty will engage in a full group discussion reflecting on discussions from the partner walk. Followed by a look at how states and districts are thinking about innovation in accountability and assessment.

Guiding Questions:

- *How does ESSA allow for flexibility to support innovation/alternative approaches to assessment and accountability? Through its accountability structure? Through the Innovative Assessment Pilot?*
- *What will it take to effectively scale innovations across more districts/states (i.e., capacity, funding, flexibility)?*
- *What is the role of ESSA relative to other state and/or district policies, practices, and/or funding streams in supporting innovation? How could these policies be more coherent and aligned?*
- *What role can/should the federal government play in fostering innovation in assessment and accountability?*

3:00 – 3:30 PM **Break**

3:30 – 4:45 PM **Session VI: Exploring Report Cards in the ESSA Era**

Guiding Questions:

- *How do families and other stakeholder groups perceive the role and usefulness of state and district report cards?*

How are report cards helping to highlight equity? Are there any concerns about transparency, accessibility, and disaggregation?

How are states and districts reporting on additional measures (such as discipline or teacher quality data), as well as other metrics states have chosen to report on that do not contribute to accountability determinations?

- *Are LEA report cards complimenting SEA report cards and adding contextual and/or additional information that is relevant and useful to stakeholders?*
- *Which SEA or LEA report cards are especially well-designed? What about them seems most promising?*

4:45 – 5:00 PM **Taking stock: Staff reflections and feedback to guide remaining discussions**

6:30 PM **Networking Reception with Expert Faculty**
Staffers will have the opportunity to network with faculty during the reception.

7:00 – 8:30 PM **Dinner with Discussion of Earlier Sessions**

Thursday, August 8, 2019

7:30 – 8:45 AM **Breakfast**

8:45 – 8:50 AM **Staff reflections and feedback to guide remaining discussion**

8:50 – 10:20 AM **Session VII: Connecting Innovation and School Improvement under ESSA**
Leighann Lentl, Chief of Partnership, University of Virginia Partnership for Leaders in Education (invited)

LaTanya McDade, Chief Education Officer, Chicago Public Schools (invited)

Guiding Questions:

- *How can innovative practices be used to support school improvement efforts? Are there technical or adaptive challenges to achieving this?*
- *How tight/loose do SEAs and LEAs need to be to create space for innovation while meeting required timelines for improvement and outcomes?*
How are SEA and LEA leaders using federal funds to support innovation?
- *What supports do SEAs and LEAs need to foster a culture of innovation and to scale successful innovations?*

10:20 – 10:30 AM **Break**

10:30 – 10:50 AM **Complete Retreat Evaluation**

10:50 – 11:20 AM **Final Observations from Expert Faculty**

11:20 – 11:45 PM **Taking Stock: Staff Reflections and Feedback to Guide Next Steps for the Network**

12:00 – 1:00 PM **Lunch and Adjourn (participants to depart by personal transportation)**